



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for producing a β -aminoketone, wherein a conjugate addition reaction between an α,β -unsaturated ketone compound and a carbamate compound is carried out to synthesize the β -aminoketone, and a salt or a hydrate salt of a transition metal of Groups 7 to 11 of the Periodic Table of Elements is present in the reaction system as a catalyst, and the salt or hydrate salt of the transition metal is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ReCl_5 , $\text{Fe}(\text{ClO}_4)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{OsCl}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{RhCl}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{IrCl}_4 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{PtCl}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, AuCl , and $\text{AuCl}_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Claims 2-8 (Cancelled)